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Diana T Fritz 02/20/2007 04:56:56 PM From DB/Inbox: Diana T Fritz

Cable Text:

CONFIDENTIAL ABU DHABI 00209

SIPDIS CXABU:

ACTION: DCM

INFO: POL PAO AMB

DISSEMINATION: DCM

CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: DCM:MQUINN DRAFTED: DCM:MQUINN

CLEARED: PAO: HOLSIN-WINDECKER

VZCZCADI273
RR RUEHC RUEHDE
DE RUEHAD #0209 0420624
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 110624Z FEB 07
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8237
INFO RUEHDE/AMCONSUL DUBAI 6839

CONFIDENTIAL ABU DHABI 000209

SIPDIS

NEA/PPD FERNANDEZ, NEA/RA LAWSON, NEA/ARP

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/11/2016
TAGS: <u>PTER ASEC KPAL KPAO ETTC AE</u>

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON ARABSAT BROADCASTING OF AL-ZAWRAA TV

REF: A. SECSTATE 14149

¶B. ABU DHABI 0008

Classified By: DCM Martin R. Quinn, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

- 11. (C) On February 8 DCM expressed U.S. deep concern about "Al Zawraa" to MFA Acting U/S Tariq Al Haidan, who was already well informed on the Iraqi pro-insurgency station's activity. Al Haidan took points on board but said the U.S. must deal with station owner Misha'an Al Juburi, member of Iraqi parliament who has fled to Syria. Al Haidan thought the station had been closed down in Iraq but then began broadcasting on Arabsat following Al Juburi's flight.
- 12. (C) Although finding the broadcast material personally repugnant, Al Haidan said that reaching Arabsat ownership consensus to remove Al Zawraa would be challenging since UAE has only a 4.66% interest in the satellite. (See reftel B.)

SISON